TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 29, 1992 -- The nation's railroads showed strong gains in movements of grain, metallic ores and crushed stone, gravel and sand during the week ended October 24, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today.

"Each of those commodities was up by better than 1,500 cars from the same week a year ago," noted Dr. Harvey A. Levine, vice president of the AAR's Economics and Finance Department. "However, because coal was off more than 8,000 cars, overall traffic fell slightly last week."

Carloadings for the week ended October 24 totaled 344,704, off 0.7 percent from the comparable 1991 week. Loadings were up 3.2 percent in the West but down 4.1 percent in the East.

Intermodal volume, which is not included in carloadings, totaled 145,756 containers and trailers, up 6.6 percent from 1991. Total freight traffic was estimated at 22.0 billion ton-miles, down 0.9 percent from the comparable 1991 week.

For the first 43 weeks of 1992, the AAR estimated total volume at 879.2 billion ton-miles, up 2.3 percent from the first 43 weeks of 1991. Carloadings totaled 13,958,070, up 0.9 percent from last year. Intermodal volume was 5,499,087 trailers and containers, up 7.4 percent.

Railroads reporting to the AAR are responsible for 94 percent of the nation's rail freight traffic and 97 percent of intermodal volume.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 24, 1992

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 24, 1992	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1991	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	31,395	29,829	5.2 %	30,194	4.0 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	2,435	2,154	13.0	2,038	19.5
Metallic Ores	17,834	15,541	14.8	19,584	-8.9
Coal	126,851	134,891	-6.0	125,684	0.9
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	16,862	15,235	10.7	15,678	7.6
Nonmetallic Minerals	9,169	9,246	-0.8	8,867	3.4
Grain Mill Products	10,476	9,999	4.8	10,190	2.8
Food & Kindred Products	9,636	9,290	3.7	9,317	3.4
Primary Forest Products	9,161	9,364	-2.2	9,049	1.2
Lumber & Wood Products	5,573	5,649	-1.3	5,320	4.8
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,108	10,366	-2.5	9,814	3.0
Chemicals	28,167	28,583	-1.5	28,280	-0.4
Petroleum Products	5,578	5,116	9.0	5,608	-0.5
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	10,203	9,615	6.1	9,798	4.1
Coke	5,856	5,369	9.1	5,667	3.3
Metals & Products	9,810	9,916	-1.1	9,311	5.4
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	20,606	19,855	3.8	19,746	4.4
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,649	9,191	-5.9	8,382	3.2
All Other Carloads	6,335	7,918	-20.0	6,452	-1.8
Total	**344,704**	**347,127**	**-0.7 %**	**338,979**	**1.7 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 24, 1992 1992	1991	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 43 WEEKS ENDING OCTOBER 24, 1992 1992	1991	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**344,704**	**347,127**	**-0.7 %**	**13,958,070**	**13,837,601**	**0.9 %**
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	73,625	68,935	6.8	2,732,654	2,627,589	4.0
Containers	72,131	67,735	6.5	2,766,433	2,494,824	10.9
Total	**145,756**	**136,670**	**6.6**	**5,499,087**	**5,122,413**	**7.4**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**22.0**	**22.2**	**-0.9 %**	**879.2**	**859.1**	**2.3 %**

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